

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of claims:**

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for moulding soles of a plastic material, and shoe welts on shoe uppers by use of a mould so as to provide ~~the~~ a finished shoe with a welted appearance, said mould including a last, upon which a shoe upper is arranged, an upper mould part divided along a longitudinal middle plane and thus including two halves being laterally movable in relation to a lower mould part between an open and a closed mould position, and a lower mould part being vertically movable in relation to the upper mould part between an open and a closed mould position, said method comprising:

A – an annular welt is provided having an inner outline substantially corresponding to ~~the~~ an outer outline of the lower side section of the shoe upper which corresponds to the position of the welt on the finished shoe, said welt being attached along an edge of a relatively thin auxiliary sole which is pervious to the plastic material and assists in keeping the welt in place during the moulding of the sole,

B – the welt attached to the auxiliary sole is placed in the mould in the open position of the mould,

C – the two halves of the upper mould part are brought together, whereby an upper projection on each of the halves extends over the welt,

D – the lower mould part is moved into its closed position by a vertical movement in relation to the upper mould part, a circumferential support face on an upper face of the lower mould part co-acting with a pressure surface on a lower face of the projection on each of the upper mould part halves in such a manner that a portion of the welt facing the shoe upper is tilted inwards and

downwards to bring an inner end face of the welt into sealing engagement with a lower side section of the shoe upper and

E – the shoe sole is moulded by supplying a plastic material to a cavity of the mould before or after the lower mould part is moved into its closed position.

Claim 2 (previously presented): Method according to claim 1, wherein the inner end face of the welt facing the shoe upper has a substantially planar surface.

Claim 3 (previously presented): Method according to claim 1, wherein pressure is exerted on the welt by the halves of the upper mould part and/or by the lower mould part that the welt is caused to tilt and the inner end face thereof is pressed against the shoe upper, so that at least the uppermost 10% of the end face sealingly abut the shoe upper.

Claim 4 (previously presented): Method according to claim 1, wherein the support surface is a face of a circumferential recess in the upper face of the lower mould part, in a cross-sectional view said face forming an angle  $\nu$  of 20-40° with horizontal plane.

Claim 5 (previously canceled)

Claim 6 (previously presented): Method according to claim 1, wherein the used auxiliary sole is made of a pervious fabric, with a plurality of perforations.

Claim 7 (previously presented): Method according to claim 1, wherein the welt is made of a comparatively soft material.

Claim 8 (previously presented): Method according to claim 1, wherein the welt is arranged on the circumferential support surface on the upper side of the lower mould part in the open position of the mould.

Claim 9 (currently amended): Method according to claim 1, wherein the welt is attached to a lower face of the shoe upper via the auxiliary sole, ~~preferably by means of an adhesive or by means of centering pins,~~ and brought into engagement with the support surface or received in a recess in the lower mould part during the movement of the lower mould part into its closed position.

Claim 10 (currently amended): Method according to claim 1, wherein the welt is substantially annular and provided with an inner outline substantially corresponding to the outer outline of the lower side section of the shoe upper at the position of the shoe welt on the finished shoe and that the surface, which is to face the shoe upper, is substantially vertical ~~and optionally provided with an undercut at least on its lowermost portion.~~

Claim 11 (previously presented): Method according to claim 10, wherein the welt is attached along the edge of an auxiliary sole by means of adhesion or sewing, said auxiliary sole having an outline substantially corresponding to that of a completed moulded sole.

Claim 12 (previously presented): Method according to claim 10, wherein a cross-sectional shape of the welt corresponds substantially to a trapezium, a rectangle or a rectangle with a short auxiliary lip.

Claim 13 (previously presented): Method according to claim 1, wherein said mould comprises:

a lower mould part and an upper mould part divided in the longitudinal direction, the two halves thereof being laterally movable relative to the lower mould part between an open and a closed mould position and the lower mould part being vertically movable relative to the upper mould part between an open and a closed mould position;

a last with an attached shoe upper arranged above the lower mould part, each half of the upper mould part being provided with a projection, wherein the mould has a circumferential support surface formed on the upper face of the lower mould part, said support face acting to support the welt and the projection on the lower face of each upper mould half has a forming pressure surface for deforming at least a portion of the welt during closure of the upper mould part and the lower mould part, and further provided with a retaining surface for retaining the welt.

Claim 14 (previously presented): Method according to claim 20, wherein the circumferential recess has a substantially V-shaped cross-section and at the top the support surface continues into a horizontal top surface for supporting the radially innermost portion of the welt during the moulding of the shoe sole on to the shoe upper, and the support surface forms an angle  $\alpha$  of 20-40°, with the horizontal plane.

Claim 15 (previously presented): Method according to claim 13 wherein the width (b) of the projection on each upper mould part half has been chosen such that when the mould parts are closed, the edge of the projection facing the shoe upper extends beyond the side wall of the

lower mould part, but prevents an excessive exertion of pressure on the shoe upper.

Claim 16 (previously presented): Method according to claim 12, wherein at least a portion of the forming pressure surface and of the retaining surface of the upper mould part projection is substantially parallel to the circumferential top face and the support surface, respectively, of the lower mould part.

Claim 17 (previously presented): Method according to claim 2, wherein the substantially planar surface is preferably provided with an undercut.

Claim 18 (previously presented): Method according to claim 4 wherein said face forms an angle  $\alpha$  of 25-35° with a horizontal plane.

Claim 19: (previously presented) Method according to claim 7 wherein the welt is made as leather, rubber, plastics or compressed leather fibres (lefa).

Claim 20: (previously presented) Method according to claim 13 wherein the support surface formed on the upper face of the lower mould part is formed in a circumferential recess in said upper face.

Claim 21: (previously presented) Method according to claim 13 wherein the support surface acting to support the welt is upwards inclining towards the lower portion of the shoe upper.

Claim 22: (previously presented) Method according to claim 14 wherein the support surface forms an angle  $V$  of  $25-35^{\circ}$  with horizontal plane.

Claim 23: (previously presented) Method according to claim 6, wherein the diameter of the perforation is 1.5-6 mm and the spacing between perforations is 3-16 mm.